

RHÔNE-POULENC INC.

P.O. Box 125 - Black Horse Lane - Monmouth Junction, New Jersey 08852 - Telephone: (201) 297-0100 - Telex: 844527

LEGAL DEPARTMENT
William N. Farran III
Environmental Counsel
(201) 821-3533

July 5, 1988

CERTIFIED MAIL/RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
COPY VIA AIRBORNE EXPRESS

Charles E. Findley, Director
Hazardous Waste Division (HW-112)
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

Marc Horton, Deputy Director
Operations and Enforcement
Department of Ecology
Mail Stop PV-11
Olympia, Washington 98504-8711

RE: Rhone-Poulenc Inc. Seattle Plant
Interim Status Storage Area
EPA I.D. No. WAD009282302

Gentlemen:

Please consider this letter as our response to your April 20, 1988 letter to Mr. Podrabsky. We received the letter on May 11, 1988, and received an extension of time to respond until July 12, 1988 in order to allow time to review the plans for the storage area in question and applicable requirements.

We appreciate the reminder provided in your letter concerning options and filing requirements with respect to the storage facility at our Seattle Plant. As your records will indicate, by letter dated October 10, 1986, Rhone-Poulenc provided notice of intent to close the storage area at the plant in accordance with the closure plan submitted on August 18, 1986. For convenient reference, we have attached a copy of that notice as Attachment A. Rhone-Poulenc still intends to pursue closure. Consequently, we have decided not to seek a permit for the facility, and will not need to file a Part B permit application. We anticipate setting a specific date for the start of closure activities in the near future, and will so notify you.



WA 2302 32
Feig
7/5/1988

RECEIVED
JUL 06 1988

HAZARDOUS WASTE DIVISION

RECEIVED
JUL 08 1988
WASTE MANAGEMENT BRANCH

COPY
L
L

Charles E. Findley, Director
Marc Horton, Deputy Director
July 5, 1988
Page 2

Closure of our storage area is, in practical reality, a misnomer in our particular circumstances because although the area will be emptied and inspected in accordance with the plan, it will continue to be operated in a "generator only" capacity and used for identical waste storage service. The only operating difference will be that waste will be removed at intervals of less than 90 days.

We are concerned by the request that we complete Enclosure A to your letter entitled "Information Regarding Potential Releases From Solid Waste Management Units." As the completion of the questionnaire would require a great deal of work, including review of records and interviewing individuals (some of whom are not in our employ), we reviewed the requirements of RCRA and related regulations. As a result of that review, we believe that there may be a misunderstanding concerning the nature or status of the storage area at our plant, and our intended plans concerning its future operation. As noted above, Rhone-Poulenc has decided not to seek a permit or submit a Part B application, but instead will merely change the storage area's emptying schedule to less than 90 days. We are aware that facilities which file a Part B application are required to perform corrective action on releases from solid waste management units ("SWMU's"), in accordance with RCRA §3004(u), added in the 1984 amendments. However, such requirements are inapplicable to facilities, such as our storage area, for which a final permit is not being sought.

In addition, we reviewed RCRA §3007 referred to in your letter as the authority under which the information in Enclosure A was requested. That section, however, refers to information requests concerning the generation, storage, treatment, transportation, disposal or handling of "hazardous waste." Section 3007 does not mention or serve as authority for information concerning the handling of solid waste or the operation of SWMU's. Our Seattle Plant only has one hazardous waste facility, which is the storage area being closed, and we believe that there have been no releases of hazardous waste from that unit.

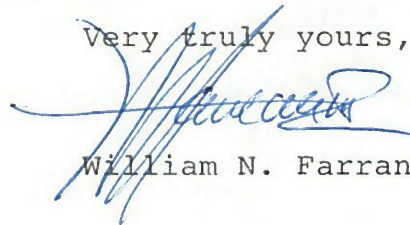
Charles E. Findley, Director
Marc Horton, Deputy Director
July 5, 1988
Page 3

We trust you will not interpret our response as indicating lack of cooperation with regulatory requirements which are associated with our storage facility. Instead, it reflects our concern over a misunderstanding of our facility, and our concern over the need to conduct substantial record and factual reviews in order to provide proper responses. The requested information is not required as a technical matter, and more importantly, will not be relevant or useful in completing closure of the area under the approved closure plan.

Please understand that if the EPA or the Department of Ecology has a specific environmental concern associated with the facility, we would be willing to meet with the appropriate members of your respective staffs in order to understand the issues, and work on an appropriate plan, as warranted.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call me or write to the above address.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William N. Farran, III", is written over a horizontal line.

William N. Farran, III

WNF/cm
attachment

RHÔNE-POULENC INC.

9229 E. Marginal Way S. Seattle, Washington 98108

October 10, 1986

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT

Mr. John Conroy
Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office
4350 - 150th Avenue N.E.
Redmond, Washington 98052

Request for RFA
Closure

copy to Bill Farrow
6-22-88

Dear Mr. Conroy:

This letter is to notify the department that Monsanto intends to close the Storage facility located at 9229 East Marginal Way South in Seattle (EPA ID number WAD009282302) per the Closure Plan submitted to Mr. Guy Bruno of your offices on August 18, 1986. The facility is currently permitted for S01 (100 gallons) and S02 (4500 gallons) under Part A Interim status dated October 4, 1982.

As you are aware, ownership of the vanillin manufacturing facility and property located at the above address was recently sold by Monsanto to Rhone-Poulenc, Inc. Operation of the manufacturing process, composition of wastes generated, and personnel employed at the plant site will remain the same as under Monsanto. A revised Notification form (Form 2) was sent to Mr. Dave Saunders, Mr. Guy Bruno, and yourself on September 30 for Generator activities only (including <90 day storage) associated with the production of vanillin by Rhone-Poulenc. Rhone-Poulenc does not wish to continue operation of the Storage facility. Rhone-Poulenc has agreed to close the facility for Monsanto and to fulfill all regulatory requirements in connection with the closure.

Although there may be a time period specified by regulation before actual closure activities can begin, we would appreciate consideration to shorten this period and allow the closure to commence as soon as reasonably possible.

If there is any further information you require pertaining to this request, please do not hesitate to contact me at 764-4450. Thank-you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Gary L. Podrabsky
Gary L. Podrabsky
Technical Over. Supt

GLP:ny

cc: Mr. Guy Bruno - WDOE Redmond
Mr. Dave Saunders - WDOE Olympia
Ms. Marie Zuroske - WDOE Olympia



Reid
Dahn

- ① This is valid response
- ② NO permit wanted
- ③ NO SWMU info submitted
 - 3007 is applicable
 - we can ask for ~~3007~~ but unless permit for operating or post closure no way to address this

Will inspect to ensure cleaned up so you should work with Ecology to develop & get approval of closure plan for public notice & implementation

- ④ Draft letter ~~to~~ to facility
~~If problems remain~~

Have ORC draft letter explaining that 3007 applicable to this facility and we want it. If we don't get it in 30 days we'll face an escalation of action. Call Wallace for discussion of info.